Get in touch
If any of our pictures bring back memories for you, let us know by emailing james.milner@reachplc.com

The fire at Fyfe's in 1906

1906

An extensive fire resulted in the complete destruction of Fyfe's forage factory at Littleport. The three-storey building of wood and corrugated iron was situated between the river and the railway line, and filled with inflammable material. Once well alight, total destruction was inevitable. Two cylinders used for steaming chaff remain amidst a great mass of charred beams and sheets of iron twisted by intense heat into all manner of fantastic shapes.

The aftermath of the fire
MIKE PETTY'S COLLECTION

Victoria Avenue

1927

Sir, The work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge.

The roadway, when finished, will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion.

Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done, the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and, as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road, this scheme should never go forward. – E. Clayden

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- Read Mike Petty's Cambridgeshire Scrapbook to search for other stories.
- Join Fenland History on Facebook to share your photos and information.
- Follow James Milner on Twitter to receive regular updates each weekend.
- Take a trip down Memory Lane to search for, share and colourise photos.
- Subscribe to Mike Petty's YouTube channel to listen to some of this talks.

Emmanuel Street

1955

Miss Kathleen Payne, 76, is retiring after a lifetime in the newsagents' business as her shop in Emmanuel Street is to be pulled down.

It marks the end of one of Cambridge's familiar landmarks.

The business was started by her father who remembered selling his first Cambridge Daily News in 1888.

Miss Payne has lived there all her life and recalls when chickens used to run down St Andrew's Street before the days of super shops, large cinemas and motor buses.

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